

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the RECEIVING OFFICE

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION NUMBER AND OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

(PCT Rule 20.5(c))

To:
Wilson Gunn M'Caw
th Floor, Blackfriars House
The Parsonage
Manchester
M3 2JA

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	- 6 DEC 2004
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Applicant's or agents's file reference IAM/P/29554.WO		IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004987	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/11/2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 27/11/2003
Applicant MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED et al		
Title of the invention FILTER CLOTH RETENTION		

1. The applicant is hereby notified that the international application has been accorded the international application number and the international filing date indicated above.

2. The applicant is further notified that the record copy of the international application: - 6 DEC 2004

☒ was transmitted to the International Bureau on _____

☐ has not yet been transmitted to the International Bureau for the reason indicated below and a copy of this notification has been sent to the International Bureau*:

☐ because the necessary national security clearance has not yet been obtained.

☐ because (reason to be specified):

* The International Bureau monitors the transmittal of the record copy by the receiving Office and will notify the applicant (with Form PCT/IB/301) of its receipt. Should the record copy not have been received by the expiration of 14 months from the priority date, the International Bureau will notify the applicant (Rule 22.1(c)).

Name and mailing address of the receiving Office The Patent Office Cardiff Road, Newport South Wales NP10 8QQ	Authorized officer Sam Smith-Higgins
Facsimile No.	Telephone No. 01633 814411

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING
SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL
OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

MIDDLEMIST, Ian, Alastair
Wilson Gunn M'Caw
5th Floor, Blackfriars House,
The Parsonage
Manchester M3 2JA
United Kingdom

03 FEB 2005

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 24 January 2005 (24.01.2005)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference IAM/P/29554.WO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004987	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)
International publication date (day/month/year) Not yet published	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003)
Applicant MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED et al	

- By means of this Form, which replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents, the applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to all earlier application(s) whose priority is claimed. Unless otherwise indicated by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column or by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- (If applicable) The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- (If applicable) An asterisk(*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

Priority date	Priority application No.	Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office	Date of receipt of priority document
27 Nove 2003 (27.11.2003)	0327582.3	GB	07 Janu 2005 (07.01.2005)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.89.65	Authorized officer Lulu HENRIOD (Fax 338 8965) Telephone No. (41-22) 338 8767
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCTNOTIFICATION CONCERNING
TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION AS PUBLISHED OR REPUBLISHED

To:

MIDDLEMIST, Ian, Alastair
Wilson Gunn M'Caw
5th Floor, Blackfriars House,
The Parsonage
Manchester M3 2JA
ROYAUME-UNI

20 JUN 2005

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 16 June 2005 (16.06.2005)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference IAM/P/29554.WO		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004987	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003)
Applicant MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED et al		

The International Bureau transmits herewith the following documents:

- ☒ copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 16 June 2005 (16.06.2005) under No. WO 2005/043815
- ☐ copy of international application as republished by the International Bureau on under No. WO
- For an explanation as to the reason for this republication of the international application, reference is made to INID codes (15), (48) or (88) (as the case may be) on the front page of the attached document.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Nora Lindner
Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Facsimile No. +41 22 338 89 65

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

FIRST NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF
THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
APPLICATION (TO DESIGNATED OFFICES WHICH
DO NOT APPLY THE 30 MONTH TIME LIMIT
UNDER ARTICLE 22(1))

(PCT Rule 47.1(c))

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 30 June 2005 (30.06.2005)		To: MIDDLEMIST, Ian, Alastair Wilson Gunn M'Caw 5th Floor, Blackfriars House, The Parsonage Manchester M3 2JA ROYAUME-UNI	
Applicant's or agent's file reference IAM/P/29554.WO			
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004987	International filing date (day/month/year) 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003)	
Applicant MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED et al			

1. **ATTENTION:** For any designated Office(s), for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002 (30 months from the priority date), does apply, please see Form PCT/IB/308(Second and Supplementary Notice) (to be issued promptly after the expiration of 28 months from the priority date).

2. Notice is hereby given that the following designated Office(s), for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002, does not apply, has/have requested that the communication of the international application, as provided for in Article 20, be effected under Rule 93bis.1. The International Bureau has effected that communication on the date indicated below:
16 June 2005 (16.06.2005)

CH

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c-bis)(i), those Offices will accept the present notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

3. The following designated Offices, for which the time limit under Article 22(1), as in force from 1 April 2002, does not apply, have not requested, as at the time of mailing of the present notice, that the communication of the international application be effected under Rule 93bis.1:

LU, SE, TZ, UG, ZM

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c-bis)(ii), those Offices accept the present notice as conclusive evidence that the Contracting State for which that Office acts as a designated Office does not require the furnishing, under Article 22, by the applicant of a copy of the international application.

4. TIME LIMITS for entry into the national phase

For the designated Office(s) listed above, and unless a demand for international preliminary examination has been filed before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (see Article 39(1)), the applicable time limit for entering the national phase will, subject to what is said in the following paragraph, be 20 MONTHS from the priority date.

In practice, time limits other than the 20-month time limit will continue to apply, for various periods of time, in respect of certain of the designated Offices listed above. For regular updates on the applicable time limits (20 or 21 months, or other time limit), Office by Office, refer to the *PCT Gazette*, the *PCT Newsletter* and the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters, all available from WIPO's Internet site, at <http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/index.html>.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor all these time limits.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35	Authorized officer Nora Lindner Facsimile No.+41 22 338 89 65
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference IA/P/29554.WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/004987	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/11/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 27/11/2003
Applicant MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item,

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004987A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B01D25/176

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 2004/030790 A (MICRONICS, INC) 15 April 2004 (2004-04-15) abstract; figures 8-10	1,4,5,8, 15,21
P,X	WO 2004/000435 A (MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED; ROBERT, BELL) 31 December 2003 (2003-12-31) abstract; figures 1,2,4	1,2,7,8, 11,15
X	EP 0 636 397 A (JUNKER-FILTER GMBH) 1 February 1995 (1995-02-01) abstract; figures 2-4	1,7
A	GB 1 075 736 A (POLYSIUS S.A.R.L.) 12 July 1967 (1967-07-12) page 2, line 34 - line 45; figure 4	

-/-

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.O. Box 5816 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx: 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer:

Sembritzki, T

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004987

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 1 478 638 A (POLYSIUS) 28 April 1967 (1967-04-28) figure 2	

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/004987

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2004030790	A	15-04-2004	WO 2004030790 A1	15-04-2004
			US 2004112818 A1	17-06-2004
WO 2004000435	A	31-12-2003	WO 2004000435 A1	31-12-2003
EP 0636397	A	01-02-1995	DE 4325235 A1	02-02-1995
			AT 143284 T	15-10-1996
			DE 59400732 D1	31-10-1996
			DK 636397 T3	17-03-1997
			EP 0636397 A1	01-02-1995
			ES 2094599 T3	16-01-1997
			US 5599446 A	04-02-1997
GB 1075736	A	12-07-1967	FR 1438384 A	13-05-1966
			DE 1486816 A1	17-07-1969
FR 1478638	A	28-04-1967	DE 1536870 A1	12-02-1970
			GB 1123134 A	14-08-1968

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43*bis*.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004987

International filing date (day/month/year)
25.11.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)
27.11.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B01D25/16

Applicant
MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43*bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☒ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☒ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1*bis*(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office
D-80288 Munich
Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d
Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Authorized Officer

Sembritzki, T

Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8626



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004987**Box No. I Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**International application No.
PCT/GB2004/004987

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	2-6, 8-22
	No: Claims	1,7
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	2-6,8-22
	No: Claims	1,7
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-22
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.10)

and /or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rules 43bis.1 and 70.9)

see form 210

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the International application have been noted:

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/004987

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: EP-A-0 636 397 (JUNKER-FILTER GMBH) 1 February 1995 (1995-02-01)
D2: GB-A-1 075 736 (POLYSIUS S.A.R.L) 12 July 1967 (1967-07-12)
D3: WO 2004/030790 A (MICRONICS, INC) 15 April 2004 (2004-04-15)
D4: WO 2004/000435 A (MADISON FILTER 981 LIMITED; ROBERT, BELL) 31
December 2003 (2003-12-31)

Item V:

1. Novelty and inventive step

- 1.1 Present claim 1 is unclear in that the "pressure exerting means" are not sufficiently defined (Article 6 PCT). The term "means" only defines that at least something is present, which is able to provide a pressure, it is, however, not clear, whether these "means" represent a separate device, the form of the edge strip or the material thereof.

D1, which is considered to represent the closest prior art, discloses a filter cloth having an edge strip comprising an elongated body which fits into a corresponding groove in a filter plate (see D1, abstract). D1 further discloses a resilient material and special outer forms of the elongated body, which are able to provide a pressure for fixing the elongated body within the groove, accordingly "means" for exerting pressure are foreseen. Since these "means" for exerting pressure are of the same material than the whole elongated body, the subject-matter of independent claim 1 and of dependent claim 7 is not novel (Article 6 PCT).

- 1.2 Since the common concept to combine an engagement of a complementary part with additional pressure is already known, the subject-matter of the dependent claims which are directly dependent on claim 1 are not so linked as to form an inventive concept (Rule 13.1 PCT), since they define different solutions for different problems.

However, these solutions seem to be neither disclosed in nor suggested by documents D1 and D2

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/004987

2. Industrial application

The industrial applicability is obvious.

Item VI:

Certain documents cited

Documents D3 and D4 claim older priorities and will become relevant in the regional phase.

Item VII

Further deficiencies

1. The independent claims are not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT, which in the present case would be appropriate, with those features known in combination from the prior art being placed in the preamble (Rule 6.3(b)(i) PCT) and with the remaining features being included in the characterising part (Rule 6.3(b)(ii) PCT).
2. The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).